

2020 Current Fiscal Year Report: Task Force for Reviewing the Connectivity and Technology Needs of Precision Agriculture in the United States

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1. Department or Agency	2. Fiscal Year
Federal Communications Commission	2020
3. Committee or Subcommittee	3b. GSA Committee No.

Task Force for Reviewing the Connectivity and Technology Needs of Precision Agriculture in the United States	84573
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4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
Yes	12/04/2019	12/04/2021	12/04/2021

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?	8b. Specific Termination Authority	8c. Actual Term Date

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year	10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?	10b. Legislation Pending?
Continue	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority	13. Effective Date	14. Committee Type	14c. Presidential?
		Continuing	No

15. Description of Committee

16a. Total Number of Reports	No Reports for this Fiscal Year
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17a. Open Meetings and Dates	17b. Closed Meetings and Dates	17c. Partially Closed Meetings and Dates	17d. Total Meetings and Dates
0	0	0	0

No Meetings

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00

18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$0.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The mission of the Task Force will be to consult with the Secretary of Agriculture (hereinafter "Secretary"), or a designee of the Secretary, and collaborate with public and private stakeholders in the agriculture and technology fields to: a) identify and measure current gaps in the availability of broadband Internet access service on agricultural land; b) develop policy recommendations to promote the rapid, expanded deployment of broadband Internet access service on unserved agricultural land, with a goal of achieving reliable capabilities on 95 percent of agricultural land in the United States by 2025; c) promote effective policy and regulatory solutions that encourage the adoption of broadband Internet access service on farms and ranches and promote precision agriculture; d) recommend specific new rules or amendments to existing rules of the Commission that the Commission should issue to achieve the goals and purposes of the policy recommendations described in b); e) recommend specific steps that the Commission should take to obtain reliable and standardized data measurements of the availability of broadband Internet access service as may be necessary to target funding support, from future programs of the Commission dedicated to the deployment of broadband Internet access service, to unserved agricultural land in need of broadband Internet access service; and f) recommend specific steps that the Commission should consider to ensure that the expertise of the Secretary and available farm data are reflected in future programs of the Commission.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

Members will represent a wide variety of entities with interests in precision agriculture technologies and practices. Members of the Task Force shall be selected by the Chairman of the Commission, in consultation with the Secretary and appropriate Commission staff. The Task Force shall be composed of not more than 15 voting members who will be appointed either as Representatives or as Special Government Employees (SGEs) as necessary. As required by the Act, voting members shall include: a) agricultural producers representing diverse geographic regions and farm sizes, including owners and operators of farms of less than 100 acres; b) an agricultural producer representing tribal agriculture; c) Internet service providers, including regional or rural fixed and mobile broadband Internet access service providers and telecommunications infrastructure providers; d) representatives from the electric

cooperative industry; e) representatives from the satellite industry; f) representatives from precision agriculture equipment manufacturers, including drone manufacturers, manufacturers of autonomous agricultural machinery, and manufacturers of farming robotics technologies; g) representatives from State and local governments; and h) representatives with relevant expertise in broadband network data collection, geospatial analysis, and coverage mapping.; Voting members will be fairly balanced in terms of their technological experience, points of view, and fields of knowledge relevant to the Task Force.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

Estimated Number of Meetings per Year - 3

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

This Task Force is intended to provide an effective means for stakeholders to exchange ideas and develop recommendations and submit reports to the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission in adherence to the Task Force's statutory responsibilities.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

Not Applicable

21. Remarks

Not Applicable

Designated Federal Officer

Jesse Theodore Jachman DFO

Narrative Description

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

Improvements to health or safety

☐

Trust in government

☐

Major policy changes

☐

Advance in scientific research

☐

Effective grant making

☐

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Improved service delivery | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Increased customer satisfaction | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Outcome Comments

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| None | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Unable to Determine | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Under \$100,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$100,000 - \$500,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$500,001 - \$1,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Over \$10,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cost Savings Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Cost Savings Comments

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

0

Number of Recommendations Comments

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable ☒

Agency Feedback Comments

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments